sick SSI units. In line with the 'Policy Package for Stepping up Credit to Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)' announced by the Government in August 2005, the RBI has issued detailed guidelines in September 2005 to the banks relating to debt restructuring mechanism for SMEs to ensure restructuring of debt of all eligible SMEs. Further, the Small Industries Development Bank of India has an exclusive Refinance Scheme for the PLIs in respect of financial assistance extended by them for rehabilitation of sick SSI units.

Implementation of Central sector projects

265. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 156 of the Central sector projects are running behind schedule, thereby pushing up the cost of these projects by about Rs. 6000 crores;

(b) if so, the details of these projects and the reasons for their delayed execution, the likely cost and time over-run in each case and revised schedules drawn up for their execution; and

(c) the fresh steps taken to fine-tune the monitoring mechanism for speedy implementation of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) Out of 764 projects costing Rs. 20 crore and above on the monitor of this Ministry as on 31-3-2005, 260 projects were delayed resulting in a cost overrun of Rs. 25,085 crore while date of commissioning is not available in respect of 156 projects.

(b) Sector-wise status of Projects delayed is enclosed in the Statement. (*See* below) Main reasons for the delay in execution of projects are:

(i) financial constraints,

(ii) delay in land acquisition and rehabilitation,

(iii) delay in award of contracts,

(iv) delay in equipment supply,

(v) slow progress by contractors,

(vi) delay in environment and others clearance,

(vii) law and order,

(viii) geological surprises.

(c) The steps taken to ensure timely completion of these projects are as follows:

(i) adoption of two-stage clearance system and stricter appraisal of project before investment approval;

(ii) taking up of projects for implementation only after funds have been fully tied up;

(iii) in-depth review of projects on monthly and quarterly basis by the Government;

(iv) follow up with the State Governments in respect of problems relating to land acquisition, rehabilitation related issues, forest clearances, infrastructure facilities and ensuring law and order at project sites, etc.

(v) setting up of an Empowered Committee in the administrative Ministries for review of departmentally executed projects;

(vi) inter-ministerial coordination for resolving unresolved problems;

(vii) setting up of Standing Committees in the Ministries/Departments to fix responsibility for time and cost overruns;

(viii) appointment of nodal officers for each project with continuity of tenure; and

(ix) issue of guidelines on standard bidding documents for adoption.

Statement

Sector-wise status of delayed projects w.r.t. original approved schedule

(Status as on 31/03/2005)

Sr. No.	Sector	Total No. of Projects	Numer of projects whose commissioning date is not available	No. of Delayed Projects	Range of delay (in months)	Original Cost of delayed projects (Rs. Crore)	Anticipated Cost of delayed projects (Rs. Crore)	Increase in Cost w.r.t Original Cost (Rs. Crore)
1.	Atomic Energy	10	—	2	6-81	107.92	107.92	0.00
2.	Civil Aviation	19	1	8	2-19	387.71	408.32	20.61
3.	Coal	89	—	28	7-252	1362.59	1356.38	-6.21
4.	Fertilisers	4	—	2	2-48	374.05	640.02	265.97
5.	I&B	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
6.	Mines	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
7.	Steel	15	—	2	3-6	202.44	202.44	0.00
8.	Petroleum	33	—	15	1-27	17680.07	21056.22	3376.15
9.	Power	53	1	18	2-178	7844.79	17687.11	9842.32
10.	Health & FW	3	1	2	74-81	140.92	691.84	550.92
11.	Railways	251	132	42	2-168	9302.85	14424.07	5121.22
12.	Road Transport & Highways	102	—	91	1-48	20476.93	20744.64	267.71
13.	Shipping & Ports	31	6	21	3-57	1260.19	1261.58	1.39
14.	Telecommunication	41	8	23	1-91	4381.60	3789.48	-592.12
15.	Urban Development	19	6	5	2-16	4982.75	10693.79	5711.01
16.	Water Resources	1	—	1	3-3	542.90	1069.40	526.50
	TOTAL	674	156	260		69047.71	94133.18	25085.47